

of smuir<sup>r</sup>lers were never before  
carried to such perfection

Above<sup>oo</sup> GOOO persons of the lower orders<sup>\*</sup>  
wont backwards and forwards, about  
twenty times a day, from Allona to  
Hamburg-, and they carried on their  
contraband trade by many ingenious  
stratagems, two of which were so curious  
that they are worth mentioning here.

On the left of the road leading from  
Hamburg to Altona there was a piece of  
ground where pits were dug for the pur-  
pose of procuring sand used for building  
and for laying down in the streets. At  
this time it was proposed to repair the  
great street of Hamburg leading to the  
gate of Altona. The smugglers overnight  
filled the sand-pit with brown sugar, and  
the little carts which usually conveyed  
the sand into Hamburg were filled with  
the sugar, care being taken to cover it  
with a layer of sand about an inch thick.  
This trick was carried on for a length of  
time, but no progress was made in  
repairing the street. I complained greatly  
of the delay, even before I was aware of  
its cause, for the street led to a country-  
house I had near Altona, whither I went,  
daily. The ofli-eers of the customs at  
length perceived that the work did not  
proceed, and one fine morning the sugar-  
carts were stopped and seized. Another  
expedient was then to be devised.

Between Hamburg and Allona there  
was a little suburb situated on the right  
bank of the Kibe. This suburb was  
inhabited by sailors, laborers of the  
port, and landowners. The inhabitants  
were interred in tin\*, cemetery of  
Hamburg. It was observed that funeral  
processions passed this way more  
frequently than usual, 'Tin\* custom-  
house officers, amazed at the sudden  
mortality of the worthy inhabitants of the  
little suburb, insisted on searching one  
of the vehicles, and on opening the hearse  
it was found to be filled with sugar, coffee,  
vanilla,, indigo, etc. It was necessary to  
abandon this expedient, but others were  
soon discovered.

Bonaparte was sensitive, in an  
extraordinary degree, to all that was said  
and thought of him, and Heaven known  
how many despatches I received from  
headquarters during the campaign of  
Vienna directing me not only to watch the

vigilant execution of the custom-house  
laws, but to lay tin eia-